



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: J. Prudent *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/982,667

Group No.: 1637

Filed: 10/18/01

Examiner: Siew, J.

Entitled: INVASIVE CLEAVAGE OF NUCLEIC ACIDS

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION
MAILED 12/17/02**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

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TECH CENTER 1600/2900

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)(1)(i)(A)

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is, on the date shown below, being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Dated: January 17, 2003

By: Susan M. McClintock
Susan M. McClintock

Sir:

The following communication is responsive to the Office Action mailed 12/17/02, due on or before 01/17/03.

A clean version of the rewritten claims with instructions for entry pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(1)(i) is provided below. A marked up version of the claims pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(1)(ii) is included at Appendix I. A clean version of the entire set of pending claims pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(3) as they should appear following entry of the this amendment is attached at Appendix II.

Please amend the present application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 36-41 and 43-60.

Please substitute the following Claim for the previously pending claim:

B1 26. (Amended) A method for detecting the presence of a target nucleic acid molecule comprising: